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THE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF MARKET RASEN

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health

For the Year 1950

R. J. R. MECREDY, B.A., M.B., D.P.H.
Medical Officer of Health.

JOHN POTTS, M.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.
Sanitary Inpector.

To the Chairman and Members of the

MARKET RASEN URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit my Annual Report for the year 1950.

The general health and progress of the Urban District has continued to be reasonably good.

The housing position continues to improve.

The provision of indoor water supplies still leaves much to be desired. Simularly the installation of water-closets is proceeding too slowly.

I wish to thank Mr. Potts for the painstaking way in which he has carried out his duties.

I also desire to thank you Sir and the Members of the Urban Council for the courtesy and help you have afforded me in the pursuit of my duties.

I have the honour to be Lady and Gentlemen

Your obedient Servant,

R. J. R. MECREDY.

Medical Officer of Health,
Market Rasen Urban District Council.

VITAL AND GENERAL STATISTICS.

Land	972 acres
Water	4 acres
Population (estimated 1950)	2206
Habitable Houses	727

The Rateable value of the Urban District on the 1st April, 1950, was £11,322 and the product of the penny rate was £46 18s. 3d. for the year ending 31st March, 1950.

VITAL STATISTICS

One death occurred of an infant under one year of age. The total deaths were fewer by 10 than the number recorded for 1949.

Malignant diseases with 6 deaths and diseases of the heart and blood vessels with 11 deaths accounted for a majority of the deaths.

Extracts from the Vital Statistics for the year 1950

Total live births	37
Illegitimate births	5
Total deaths (all causes)	29
Deaths of infants under one year of age ..	1
Deaths from Puerperal causes	Nil
Stillbirths	1

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES

Pulmonary Tuberculosis	2
Measles	4
Whooping Cough	2

One death occurred from Pneumonia which was not notified.

It will be noted that eight cases of notifiable disease were reported during the year. There were therefore no epidemic outbreaks during the year. Diphtheria has not now occurred for eight years.

45 children were immunised for the first time against diphtheria. This is a fall from the previous year with 61. The number of children receiving a " booster " dose was 44.

The number of vaccinations against Smallpox was 18 and revaccinations 3.

CAUSES OF DEATH

	Males	Females
Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	2	Nil
Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms ..	Nil	4
Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	1	3
Hypertension with Heart Disease	1	1
Other Heart Disease ..	2	3
Pneumonia	Nil	1
Bronchitis	Nil	2
Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum	1	Nil
Hyperplasia of Prostate ..	2	Nil
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	3	3
Total deaths ..	12	17

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

1. Mental Illness

Treatment is arranged in conjuction with the Regional Hospital Board. Supervision and after care is carried out by specially trained workers employed by the County Council.

Mental Defectives

The County Council through the Regional Hospital Board makes arrangements for the institutional care of mental defectives.

The County Council remains responsible for the care and supervision of mentally defectives in their own homes. This work is carried out by the Health Visitors.

2. Laboratory Facilities

These are provided at the Public Health Laboratory, 8 St. Anne's Road, Lincoln, and at Grimsby and District Hospital. Diphtheria Anti-toxin, Anti-typhoid Serum, and Scarlet Fever Streptococcus Anti-toxin can be supplied by the District Council.

3. Ambulance Facilities, Under National Fire Service

An Ambulance can be obtained either through the patients' Doctor or Nurse, or in the event of emergency by asking the Telephone Operator for the Ambulance Station.

SUMMARY (for reference) OF NURSING ARRANGEMENTS, HOSPITALS, AND OTHER INSTITUTIONS AVAILABLE FOR THE DISTRICT

Nursing in the Home

All District Nurses now come under the authority of the Lindsey County Council.

Clinics and Treatment Centres

Treatment and after care of tubercular cases now comes under the Regional Hospital Board. School Clinics remain under the charge of the Lindsey County Council.

Hospitals — Isolation

All cases of Infectious Disease and Smallpox are dealt with by the Regional Hospital Board.

Midwifery and Maternity Services

Administered by the Lindsey County Council. Dental treatment arranged through the Lindsey County Council.

Health Visitors

The duties of the above are performed through the Lindsey County Council.

Infant Life Protection

The duties of the above are performed through the Lindsey County Council.

Arrangements for Dental Treatment are made through the Lindsey County Council.

Registration of Nursing Homes is controlled by the Lindsey County Council.

Orthopaedic cases are now seen at the various hospital out-patient departments and at the School Clincs.

Home Help Service

Full-time and part-time home helps are now available in the District, arranged for by the Lindsey County Council.

HOUSING

15 new council houses were completed during the year. Two houses were built by private enterprise. Ten houses were in course of erection at the end of the year. The Councils' Wold View Estate has now 64 occupied houses. This has caused a considerable improvement in the local housing conditions. There is, however, considerable room for further progress as only 14 council houses were built from 1919 to 1939.

One Closing Order was issued upon a back to back house, but this was removed before the end of the year as the housing requirements were complied with.

WATER SUPPLIES

This is still controlled by the Market Rasen Water Company though arrangements are in train for the sale of the works, etc., to the Caistor Rural District Council. The supply of water in the higher levels has remained reasonably satisfactory throughout the year.

No bacteriological and chemical tests were made during the year. Five houses had a water supply installed indoors making a total of 290.

There are therefore 437 houses without an indoor water supply. This remains a very unsatisfactory state of affairs in a town which has had piped water laid on for such a long period of time.

SANITATION AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

During the year 26 closet conversions were made from earth or pail to W.C.s. This brings the total of houses with waterclosets to 385. The number of properties with privies and pail closets is now 342 which remains far too high for a town with a sewerage system.

25 drainage services have had some reconstruction work done.

New sludge drying beds are to be erected at the sewage treatment works at Middle Rasen. The treatment of the sewage continues to be impaired by the presence of sand and subsoil water.

The collection of nightsoil has decreased with the gradual increase in sewage connections.

REFUSE COLLECTION

This has shown a gradual increase with the development of the new housing estate. With the gradual filling up of the present disposal sites a new tipping area will have to be obtained in the near future.

INSPECTION OF FOOD

No slaughter of animals for food took place in the town during the year. 80-lbs. of beef was condemned as unfit for sale. 65 tins of food were found unfit for human consumption and were disposed of.

SUMMARY OF SANITARY INSPECTOR'S WORK FOR THE YEAR 1950 IS AS FOLLOWS

Public Health Inspections	117
Public Health Re-inspections ..	94
Inspections for Overcrowded Housing	2
Housing Maintenance and Repairs ..	58
Infectious Disease	7
Rooms Disinfected	2
Verminous Premises	1
Rooms Disinfested	3
Refuse Collection	49
Refuse Bins	26
Factories	56
Drainage	25
Drainage (Testing)	14
Shops and Food	14
Fried Fish Shops	6
Meat Shops	7
Bakehouses	11
Rats and Mice	12
Closets and Conveniences	45
Water Supply	4
Matters not previously included ..	39

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